

Remarks and Arguments

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-13 as anticipated by the Schneider '636 reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Schneider (U.K. 1,115,636).

The Schneider Reference

The examiner alleges that the Schneider reference anticipates the presently claimed invention by the disclosure in Fig. 10, item 30 of a "longitudinal heat seal" and in Fig. 10, item 34 of spaced "transverse" heat seals. Applicants respectfully disagree. Schneider does not disclose any structure that is "transverse" to a longitudinal seal and in fact discloses the opposite and contrary structure as claimed in the present invention.

F. 19/20
The mated bottom end of the Schneider structure disclosed in Fig. 10 and shown generally at 34, is coincident with, not "transverse" to, the longitudinal seal formed by sealing heads 30. That is, the bottom seal edge 34 is opposite to the presently claimed method, i.e. Schneider's bottom edge is along the same line as the longitudinal package seal, not transverse to it.

In the same manner and for the same reason, the folds or vertices 37 that are formed on the sides of the Schneider package (which the examiner analogizes to the "triangles" of the present invention) are "perpendicular" to and intersect the in-line longitudinal seal and bottom seal edge 34, i.e. the folds or vertices 37 are not "lateral" to the longitudinal seal 34 as called for by the claims of the present invention.

There is no Section 102 anticipation of the present invention for these reasons and in addition for the following reasons.

F. 19/20
The present invention calls for folding and bonding the wings "laterally" to the longitudinal heat seal. The Schneider protrusions 37 are folded and bonded "in-line" with and directly into the middle of the longitudinal heat seal shown in Fig. 10 as cited by the Examiner, not "laterally" to the longitudinal heat seal as claimed in claim 1. And, the Schneider protrusions, folds, vertices 37 are folded "underneath" the bottom of the package, not "laterally" to the longitudinal heat seal of the package.

F. 11/20
Similarly claim 13 of the present invention calls for the wings being folded and bonded onto the triangles. Schneider discloses the opposite. Schneider's protrusions, folds, vertices 37, which the Examiner analogizes to wings, are folded "underneath" the

bottom of the package and bonded "underneath" the package, not folded onto a triangle structure that is analogous to the triangles of the present invention.

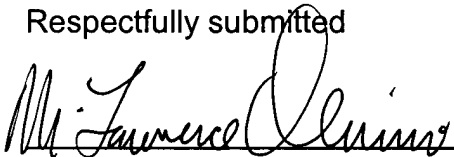
Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection be withdrawn. Anticipation requires that the prior art fairly disclose every feature of the claimed invention. In this case, the Schneider reference teaches the opposite of the claimed method, not the same features of the claimed invention. Nothing in the Schneider reference supports a Section 102 rejection of the claimed invention. There simply is no cropping in a direction transverse to a longitudinal seal and there is no sealing that forms wings lateral to a longitudinal seal.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration of the present application and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the present amendments and remarks.

If the Examiner believes that a teleconference would expedite resolution of any matter with regard to the present Application, the examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number listed below. If any fees beyond the fees submitted concurrently with this Amendment and Response are required for any reason, all such fees may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 02-3038 .

Respectfully submitted



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5. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an inherently stable container made of flexible material, comprising the following steps:
- a) folding a continuous film of flexible material of appropriate width, to obtain a pouch [by way of] having a longitudinal heat-seal and [by way of] evenly spaced transverse heat-seals, followed by cropping the folded film [transversely] in a direction transverse to the longitudinal heat seal;
 - b) heat-sealing in sides of the pouch, at a region of the transverse heat-seals, forming two triangles having wings laterally disposed relative to the longitudinal heat-seal;
 - c) punch opening said pouch, and optionally filling the pouch with a product;
 - d) folding and bonding the wings laterally relative to the longitudinal heat-seal and, after filling the pouch, simultaneously with the bonding of the wings, heat-sealing an upper open mouth of the pouch.
13. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an inherently stable container made of flexible material, comprising the steps of:
- a) folding a continuous film of flexible material of appropriate width, to obtain a pouch [by way of] having a longitudinal heat-seal and [by way of] evenly spaced transverse heat-seals, followed by [transversely] cropping the folded film in a direction transverse of the longitudinal heat-seal;
 - b) heat-sealing two triangles having wings into sides of the pouch lateral to the longitudinal heat-seal, each of the triangles having a base which coincides with one edge of the pouch and a vertex which wedges inwards said pouch lateral to the longitudinal heat-seal; punch opening said pouch, and optionally filling the pouch with a product; folding and bonding the wings onto the triangles.